

**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Albert K. Chin
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TITLE: Apparatus and Methods for Subxiphoid Endoscopic
Access
EXAMINER: Thomas C. Barrett
GROUP ART UNIT: 3738
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the official action dated June 5, 2006 received in the patent application identified above, please amend the claims as indicated herein.